



FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER
V A C A N C Y A N N O U N C E M E N T

FDA IS SMOKE-FREE

Announcement Number: FDA-9-4009

Opening Date: February 10, 1999

Closing Date: March 10 , 1999

Position Title: Interdisciplinary Scientist
This is a Food Safety Initiative position

Series & Grade: GS-13; 601 [Epidemiologist], 487 [Animal Scientist], 410 [Zoologist], 413 [Physiologist]

Promotion Potential: None

Salary Range: \$58,027 - \$75,433 per annum

Area of Consideration: All Sources (This is a combined announcement for both competitive examining (external hiring) and merit promotion. Applicants without status are only eligible to apply under competitive examining. Applicants with status who wish to be considered under both types of recruitment must submit two separate applications. If only one application is received, status applicants will be considered under merit promotion procedures only). Preference eligibles or veterans who have separated from the armed forces under honorable conditions after 3 years or more of continuous service may apply.

Type of Appointment: Career/Career Conditional

Relocation expenses: Will not be paid

Organization, Duty Location: DHHS, FDA, Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM), Office of Surveillance and Compliance
Division of Epidemiology and Surveillance, Epidemiology Team, Rockville, MD
Metro Park North 2 Building

Condition of Employment: Certain positions within the FDA are subject to strict restrictions on financial holdings (FDA regulated financial holdings). To determine whether this position is affected, applicants are advised to seek additional information during the interview process prior to accepting such a position.

Commissioned Corps candidates may apply.

JOB SUMMARY:

This position is located on the Epidemiology Team, within the Division of Epidemiology and Surveillance, Office of Surveillance and Compliance, Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM). The specific responsibility of the Epidemiology Team is to promote animal and human health by characterizing the distribution and determinants of health events, and identifying associations through a population-based scientific approach. **Specific duties include:**

- ▶ Participates with other Team personnel in the design and development of epidemiological protocols for studies in support of the Center's Food Safety Initiative Surveillance Plan.
- ▶ Participates with other Team and Office personnel in the maintenance and augmentation of the National Antimicrobial Susceptibility Monitoring System and collaborations with the Interagency partners, CDC and USDA.
- ▶ Interacts with a variety of scientists from universities and other government agencies and participates in scientific meetings, and discussions to stay current in the areas of food safety, food borne disease, antimicrobial resistance, public health and epidemiology.
- ▶ Interacts with drug sponsors to provide expert input into the design and conduct of post approval monitoring protocols to assess public health impact of marketing of antimicrobial products in large populations.
- ▶ Participates with other Epidemiology Team members and governmental partners in the design, development, and conduct of veterinary and producer prescribing surveys.
- ▶ Provides technical and epidemiological support to the regulatory and research activities of the Center and serves as a consultant for the agency, federal and state organizations regarding epidemiological issues.
- ▶ Attends and participates in a variety of Agency activities including but not limited to ad hoc task forces, working groups, standing committees, and Advisory panel presentations.

QUALIFICATIONS:

ZOOLOGIST, GS-410

Applicants must have either (A) degree in zoology or a related discipline or field of science that included at least 20 semester hours in zoology and related animal sciences; OR (B) A combination of education and experience with courses equivalent to a major in zoology, or in a related discipline, that included course work as shown in A above, plus appropriate experience or additional education.

PHYSIOLOGIST, GS-413

Applicants must have successful completion of a full four-year course of study in an accredited college or university leading to a bachelor's (or higher) degree in one of the basic animal sciences or physiology; or physiology; or related discipline or field of science, that included 24 semester hours in basic animal science, of which 10 semester hours were in animal physiology. Courses such as anatomy, cytology, invertebrate and vertebrate zoology, embryology, entomology, animal, dairy and poultry husbandry, nutrition, genetics and physiology may be used to meet the 24 semester hour requirement in the basic animal sciences.

ANIMAL SCIENCE, GS-487

Applicants must show either:

(A) Degree in animal science, dairy science, poultry science; or a related discipline or field of animal science that included at least 30 semester hours in the basic biological and agricultural sciences, and 20 semester hours in animal science.

-For animal scientist positions, at least 10 of the required 20 semester hours in animal science must have been in courses dealing with the breeding, feeding, production, and management of livestock, and the care and preparation of their products.

-For dairy scientist positions, at least 10 of the required 20 semester hours in animal science must have been in dairy science.

-For poultry scientist positions, at least 10 of the required 20 semester hours in animal science must have been in poultry science.

OR

(B) Combination of education and experience - courses equivalent to a major in the basic biological and agricultural sciences, including a minimum of 20 semester hours in appropriate animal science subjects, as described in A above, plus appropriate experience or additional education.

EPIDEMIOLOGIST, GS-601

Basic requirement: Applicants must have successfully completed a four year course of study in accredited college or university leading to a bachelor's or higher degree that included a major field or study related to the health sciences or allied sciences appropriate to the work of the position.

OR

Combination of education and experience - courses equivalent to 24 semester hours in a major field of study.

Candidates must have 52 weeks of specialized experience equivalent to the GS-12 grade level in the Federal service.

Specialized experience is experience which is typically in or directly related to the work of the position.

Internal candidates must meet all qualification requirements, including time-in-grade, within 30 days after the closing date.

External candidates must meet all qualification requirements by the closing date of this vacancy.

In addition to the above qualifications candidates must possess the following selective factor:

KNOWLEDGE OF EPIDEMIOLOGIC METHODS AND HOW THEY RELATE TO PUBLIC HEALTH DECISION MAKING.

EVALUATION METHOD:

Candidates found basically qualified will be further evaluated by determining the extent to which their work or related experience, education, training, awards, etc., indicate their possession of the knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSA's) described below.

- 1. Knowledge of epidemiologic methods and how they relate to public health decision making.**
- 2. Ability to analyze and evaluate scientific data using standard statistical methodology.**
- 3. Ability to use computers and computer software.**
- 4. Ability to effectively communicate orally, conduct meetings and negotiate.**
- 5. Demonstrated ability to work as a team member and contribute leadership and management skills to the organization.**

HOW TO APPLY:

A. Candidates may submit an Application for Federal Employment (SF-171), an Optional Application for Federal Employment (OF 612), resume, curriculum vitae, or any other written format. Your application **must** include the following information:

VACANCY INFORMATION

*Vacancy Announcement Number, Title, Grade

PERSONAL INFORMATION

*Full legal name

*Mailing address

*Social Security Number

*Home and Work telephone numbers

*Birth Date

*Citizenship

*Reinstatement eligibility

*Highest Federal civilian grade held (give job series, dates held)

EDUCATION (Transcripts may be substituted for most of the following)

*Date of high school graduation or GED

*Name, location and dates of each college/university attended

*Type of degree(s), if any, date(s) received

*Major field of study

*Total semester or quarter hours

*Undergraduate GPA or class rank

EXPERIENCE - most relevant to this position include:

*Name of employer (Supervisor)

*Address and telephone number of employer

*Dates of employment (month/year)

*Job title

*Brief description of your duties and responsibilities for each job listed

*Average hours worked for each position if less than 40 hours per week

TRAINING-To receive credit for relevant training:

*List of course titles, dates, number of hours attended and name(s) of the institution(s)

HONORS AND AWARDS-If relevant to position for which applying

*Description of honors and/or awards along with dates acquired

SKILLS/SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS-If relevant to the position for which applying

*Language skills (other than English)

*License(s) and date(s) acquired

*Typing Speed/Words Per Minute (WPM)

*Dictation Speed/WPM

B. Additional information/completed forms to be submitted, if checked; failure to submit requested information/documents may result in nonconsideration or a lower rating in the evaluation process.

Written response to the knowledge, skills and abilities

If claiming veterans' preference, see additional information on this form

College transcripts or list of courses, including title, credit hours and grade for each course and/or changing occupational series; see additional information on this form for foreign education

Current federal employees - most recent performance appraisal/evaluation

Current **and** former federal employees - a copy of most recent complete SF-50, Notification of Personnel Action, to verify status

*Qualifying education gained at college and universities in foreign countries **must** be evaluated in terms of its equivalency to that acquired in American colleges and universities. Applicants educated in whole or in part in foreign countries must submit sufficient evidence, including transcripts, to an accredited private organization for an equivalency evaluation. A letter containing the results **MUST** accompany the application package.

Applicant Background Survey: Please return the Background Survey with your application. This information you provide is used for statistical purposes. The return of this form is voluntary. Failure to return this form will have no impact on your consideration for this position.

Surplus or Displaced Employees in the Department of Health And Human Services (DHHS) Requesting Special Selection Priority Consideration Under The Career Transition Assistance Program (CTAP)

If you are currently a DHHS employee you may be entitled to special priority selection under the DHHS Career Transition Assistance Program (CTAP). To receive priority consideration, you must:

1. Be a current DHHS employee serving under an appointment in the competitive or excepted service in tenure group I or II, in receipt of (1) a Reduction in Force (RIF) specific separation notice, (2) a notice of proposed removal for declining a directed reassignment or transfer of function outside of the commuting area, (3) a Certificate of Expected Separation (CES), or (4) other official notice that indicates the employee is surplus or eligible for discontinued service retirement (DSR) or as being in a surplus organization or occupation, and the date of the separation has not passed and you are still on the rolls of DHHS. You must submit a copy of the separation notice, CES, or other official notice along with your application in order to receive special priority consideration;
2. Be applying for a position that is at or below the grade level of the position from which you are being separated. The position must not have a greater promotion potential than the position from which you are being separated;
3. Have a current (or last) performance rating of record of at least fully successful or equivalent. This must be submitted with your application package;
4. Be currently employed by DHHS in the same commuting area of the position for which you are requesting priority consideration;
5. Submit your application (including all required documentation) by the vacancy announcement closing date and meet all the application criteria; and
6. Be rated well qualified for the position.
 "Well Qualified" means: a surplus/displaced employee must meet the minimum qualifications and eligibility requirements for the position, including any documented selective factor(s), and be rated and ranked under the same procedures as merit promotion applicants to determine the extent to which he/she possesses the knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSAs) to succeed in the position being filled. A cut-off score will be used to determine the well qualified applicant(s).

Displaced Employees Requesting Special Selection Priority Consideration Under The Interagency Career Transition Assistance Program (ICTAP). If you are a displaced Federal employee you may be entitled to receive priority selection under the ICTAP.

To be eligible for the special selection priority, you must meet all of the following:

- (1) Be a displaced Federal employee;
- (2) Submit a copy of your current (or your last) performance rating of record of at least fully successful or equivalent;
- (3) Apply for a vacancy at or below the grade level from which you were or are being separated, that does not have a greater promotion potential than the position from which you have been or are being separated from;
- (4) Occupy, or was displaced from a position in the same local commuting area of the vacancy;
- (5) Submit an application (including all required documentation) for a specific vacancy within the time frames established on the announcement and meet all the application and eligibility criteria;
- (6) Submit proof of eligibility; and
- (7) Be rated well qualified for the position.

"Well Qualified" means: a displaced employee must meet the minimum qualification and eligibility requirements for the position (including any selective factors), and be rated and ranked to determine the extent to which he/she possesses the knowledge, skill, and abilities (KSAs) to succeed in the position being filled. Under merit promotion procedures, a cut-off score will be used to determine the well qualified applicant(s). Under delegated examining procedures, the displaced employee must receive a score of 90 or better to receive selection priority.

Displaced employees may submit any (one) of the following as proof of eligibility for the special selection priority:

- (1) IF separation notice, or notice of proposed removal for declining a directed reassignment or transfer of function to another commuting area;
- (2) Documentation, e.g., SF-50, Notification of Personnel Action, showing that you were separated as a result of IF, or for declining a directed reassignment or transfer of function to another commuting area;
- (3) Official certification from an agency stating that it cannot place an individual whose injury compensation has been or is being terminated;
- (4) Official notification from O.M. that your disability annuity has been or is being terminated; or
- (5) Official notification from the Military Department or National Guard Bureau that the employee has retired under 5 U.S.C. 8337(h) or 8456.

ADDRESS:

**Food and Drug Administration
 Office of Human Resources and Management Services
 Room 211, Metro Park North I, HFA-423
 7520 Standish Place
 Rockville, MD 20855**

Additional forms and information may be obtained from the address above or by calling Mary Goodson at (301) 827-7332 or (301) 827-4070 (Voice/TTY).

If you would like a copy of the vacancy announcement faxed to you, please call FAXBACK at (301) 827-4287 or to have a copy mailed to you, please call the Job Information Line at (301) 443-1969. For employment information, visit our websites at <http://www.fda.gov> (click on "Index" and "Job Openings"). FDA employees can also access the FDA Intranet at <http://ohrms.fda.gov> (click on "Vacancies").

Applications received become the property of the Office of Human Resources and Management Services and will not be returned. Applications submitted in postage paid Government envelopes will not be accepted. ALL APPLICATION MATERIAL MUST BE POSTMARKED OR RECEIVED BY THE CLOSING DATE OF THIS ANNOUNCEMENT.

Non-status applicants are individuals who have never been permanently employed by the Federal government. Status applicants are those who (1) are currently employed by the Federal government under a career or career-conditional appointment; (2) have reinstatement eligibility; or (3) have eligibility under special appointment authorities.

If you served on active duty in the United States military and received an honorable or general discharged, you may be eligible for veteran's preference. Service starting after October 15, 1976, requires a Campaign Badge or Expeditionary medal, or service connected disability.

Veteran's Preference for Federal Jobs:

If claiming 5 point veteran's preference, list the dates (month, day, year) and branch of any active duty served.

If claiming 10 point veteran's preference, attached an SF-15, Application for 10 Point Veteran's Preference, plus the proof required by that form.

***The Defense Authorization Act of November 18, 1997, extended veterans' preference to persons who served on active duty during the Gulf War from August 2, 1990, through January 2, 1992. The law grants preference to persons otherwise eligible and who served on active duty during this period, regardless of where the person served or for how long. The law also authorizes the Secretary of each military department to award the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for service in Bosnia during the period November 10, 1995, to a date to be determined. The award of the Medal is qualifying for veterans' preference. More information on veterans' preference is available in the VetGuide that may be found on the U.S. Office of Personnel Management web site at www.opm.gov.**

All applicants will receive equal consideration without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, sex, disability, sexual orientation, political affiliation, age (with authorized exceptions) or any other non-merit factor.

Vietnam era veterans, disabled veterans, individuals with disabilities, and other individuals eligible for special appointing authorities are encouraged to apply.

This is a competitive vacancy, open to all United States citizens, advertised under examining authority delegated to the Food and Drug Administration by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management.